Assistance to earthquake victims in Uttar Pradesh

1353. DR. SANJAYA SINH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 2517 given in the Rajya Sabha on 13th March, 1992 and state:

(a) whether Government have since received the report of the Central team which visited the earthquake affected areas in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, what is the assessment of the Central Team regarding extent of damage and quantum of Central assistance required for relief and rehabilitation measures in the earthquake-affected areas; and

(c) what further action Government have taken/propose to take to provide Central assistance to Uttar Pradesh Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Additional assistance to Uttar Pradesh would be considered after the receipt of the report of the Central Team.

महाराष्ट्र में दुर्भिक्ष

1354. **श्री विश्वासराव रामराव पाटिल :** क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) महाराष्ट्र में दुर्भिक्ष से उत्पन्न स्थिति से निपटने, गांवों में पीने का जल, पशुओं को चारा उपलब्ध कराने, रोजगार को गारन्टी की योजना आरंभ करने तथा वहां के लोगों को खाद्यान्न आदि उपलब्ध कराने के लिए महाराष्ट्र सरकार द्वारा कितनी धनराशि की मांग की गई है; और

(ख) केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा कितनी धनराशि की सहायता दिये जाने की संभावना है तथा यह कब तक जारी कर दी जायेगी ?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री के० सी० लेंका) : (क) महाराष्ट्र सरकार ने 789.41 करोड़ रुपये की अतिरिक्त सहायता मांगी है जिसका ब्यौरा नीचे दिया गया है :—

	(करोड़ रुपयों में)
(क) किसानों के लिए सहायता	175.79
(ख) सहकारी ऋण	19.00
(ग) ग्रामीण पेयजल	72.28
(घ) शहरी पेयजल	14.18
(ङ) वनीकरण	7.00
(च) रोजगार गारन्टी स्कीम	400.00
(छ) जवाहर रोजगार योजना	14.65
(ज) चारा	69.60
(झ) चिकित्सा एवं स्वास्थ्य	2.00
(ञ) दुर्बल वर्ग का पोषण	14.91
	789.41

(ख) राज्य को दी जाने वाली केन्द्रीय सहायता की मात्रा का अनुमान लगाने के लिए महाराष्ट्र में एक केन्द्रीय दल भेजने का निर्णय लिया गया है ।

Extinction of fish

1355. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether, according to the National Bureau of Fish Genetics Resources, Allahabad, a popular river fish, Hilsa, is facing extinction in the Ganga upstream from West Bengal besides other varieties of fish;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what measures are proposed to be taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Hilsa fishery in the river Ganga at Bhagalpur, Buxur and Allahabad declined by about 82% to 98% after the

construction of Farrakha Barrage. In addition, the indiscriminate fishing and industrial pollution also affected the Hilsa population as well as the stock of other commercially important fishes in the river.

(c) A hatchery with a nursery farm near the Farrakha Barrage to produce Hilsa seed for stocking the river Ganga above the Barrage is under construction to improve the Hilsa fishery in the river.

Production of seeds

1356. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:
DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finalised any plan to produce sufficient quantities of seeds of high yielding maize hybirds in different parts of the country; and

(b) if so, the hybrid-wise and state-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) and (b) Planning, production and distribution of seeds including high yielding maize hybrids is primarily the responsibility of State Governments. Seed requirement and availability position is assessed by the ministry during Zonal Seed Review meetings prior to the commencement of the sowing season i.e. Kharif and Rabi.

As per Kharif 1992, Zonal Seed Review meetings, Maize hybrid-wise statewise position of requirement and availability is annexed.

[See appendix CLXIII, Annexure No. 26]

Shortage of maize in the country

1357. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:
DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the acute shortage of maize in the country has resulted in reduction of poultry feeds;

(b) whether it is also a fact that as a result thereof; there has been a major setback in the production of eggs and poultry products; and

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken to provide adequate raw materials particularly maize for the benefit of the poultry and animal husbandry sectors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) and (b) The poultry industry in the country has been passing through a difficult period, mainly due to the shortage and high prices of maize. Government have received representations to the effect that many poultry farms, especially the small ones, have been adversely affected due to the increase in price of important feed ingredients.

(c) The Government have taken the following main steps for making available raw materials including maize for the poultry sector:—

(i) State Government have been requested to intervene to prevent hoarding of maize by traders.

(ii) NAFED has been asked to procure maize locally and also to explore the possibility of import of maize from abroad to make available to the poultry sector.

(iii) Steps are being taken for increasing the production of maize in the country.

(iv) Finance assistance has been provided to State Level Poultry Corporations/Federations and similar other organisations for streamlining the marketing of eggs and poultry and supply of balanced poultry feed at reasonable prices.

(v) Ministry of Food has been requested to make available some wheat for the exclusive use of the poultry industry.